SJOGREN’S SYNDROME (provisional diagnosis)

Please note this is our provisional diagnosis which must be confirmed by tests. If you have any questions, particularly about the treatment or potential side-effects, please ask your doctor.

- This is an uncommon condition
- The cause is unknown but it is immunological and possibly viral
- It is not known to be infectious
- It is not usually inherited
- Common features are dry mouth and dry eyes
- Joint and other problems may be associated
- X-rays, blood tests and biopsy may be required
- Symptoms can usually be controlled but not cured with simple drugs
- Common complications are mouth soreness, tooth decay and salivary swelling
- Rare complication, in a very few patients is a tumour.
- You should get yourself checked regularly if advised by the specialist
- Useful website http://www.sjsworld.org/
- Advice is available from
  British Sjogren’s Syndrome Association
  Unit 1, Manor Workshops,
  Nailsea Wall Lane
  West End, Nailsea
  Bristol BS19 2DD

A patient has the right under common law to give or withhold consent to medical examination of treatment. This is one of the basic principles of health care. Patients are entitled to receive sufficient information in a way they can understand about the proposed treatments, the possible alternatives and any substantial risk or risks which may be special in kind or magnitude or special to the patient, so that they can make a balanced judgement. (UK Health Dept.19.2.99. HSC 1999/031)

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February 2003